



**VIETNAM:
DILEMMA
FOR
AMERICANS**

Like many other Americans, I have been deeply concerned for some time over our country's involvement in the War in Vietnam; a war that shows no signs of reaching an end.

With a communist bastion lying just 90 miles from our shores, continuously spreading its poisonous propaganda and criminal subversion throughout our hemisphere . . . it is in the jungles and rice fields of South Vietnam, 9,000 miles away, that our government says it has chosen to oppose Communist aggression. But we seem unable, or unwilling to achieve victory over this Communist enemy.

Even as the headlines continued to tell of the increasing number of Americans dying in Vietnam, I heard disturbing reports of incredible restrictions on our fighting men. The evidence that these Americans were dying in a No-Win war finally became so overwhelming that I went to Vietnam to see first-hand what is happening. I went there alone, and without fanfare, a free American who wanted to know the truth. I went there to try and determine if those Americans who shed their blood in this far-away land are doing so in vain.

My visit began in the fascinating city that is modern Saigon. A city of contrasts, with tall buildings, modern stores, broad streets, brightly painted sign boards reporting election results, an incredible number of small sidewalk shops that seem to line every street offering an endless variety of items to the constant stream of shoppers . . . and the "thieves' market place," where the vultures of the black market hawk their illicit wares openly on the sidewalk.

In Saigon, teeming masses of people go busily about their lives in the midst of a war. I spoke with many of them and they seemed genuinely glad that people somewhere cared enough to help preserve their freedom.

I went with the reporters and photographers, who serve as eyes and ears of the world, to the impressively staged press conferences where they are given prepared news releases, that are rewritten, adding local color, and then fed to a news hungry America.

I left Saigon . . . and went out across the country side, where roads were lined with rich fields of rice and heavy jungle . . . There the most frequent travelers one sees are Vietnamese and American forces traveling in armed convoy, for the ever present Viet-Cong can strike from ambush at any moment.

I went to small remote villages where humble people live and die, not really knowing what the war is all about, but where the children showed with their shining faces that they knew the Americans were their friends.

I went on to where Americans, in this land of mud, jungles and rice paddies, man the outposts of freedom against the ruthless aggression of the world-wide Communist apparatus.

Where American men; your sons, husbands, sweethearts and brothers, are fighting and dying in defense of our freedom.

Yes, I went to Vietnam and saw first-hand what is happening there. When I left there, I was even more disturbed and concerned than when I arrived.

Many of the things you will see and hear in the film VIETNAM: DILEMMA FOR AMERICANS, are from my personal observations and person-to-person "off the record" conversations with our fighting men in Vietnam.

DONALD MACKEY

Even as the blood of Americans drenches the soil of Vietnam, across America hordes of demonstrators parade in protest against our men in Vietnam . . . and for the Communist enemy.

Thousands march with their Viet-Cong flags waving in the breeze and defiantly holding aloft their banners proclaiming victory for the FLN, that enemy that has already killed over 16,000 Americans.

Thousands parade, shouting their anti-United States slogans and littering the streets with their hate-America literature.

Informed Americans are amazed to see how a relatively small number of Communists and Communist sympathizers have been able to deceive, mislead and beguile so many into doing their dirty work.

It is shocking to find that in addition to the hippies, bums,

mis-directed humanitarians, one-sided pacifists, appeasers, and other assorted groups among the marching masses, are people such as:

Dr. Benjamin Spock, author of books on raising children, but no authority on Communist activities.

Martin Luther King, so-called Civil Rights leader, whose non-violent protests usually seem to end in bloody violence.

Joan Baez, protest singer so popular with the off-beat, down-beat, ill-kept, unwashed group.

The much publicized Robert Vaughn, television personality, political opportunist and darling of the New-left intelligencia.

Stokely Carmichael, past President of the Student Non-Violent Coordinating Committee (SNCC), full time racist agitator, fledgling insurrectionist and a prominent leader in the Hate-America chorus.

Senator Robert Kennedy of New York, former US Attorney General, who proclaimed willingness to donate his blood . . . to the Viet-Cong.

The prestige and influence of these and many others is being used in the Communist led and directed protests being staged across America. As disgusting as this is to every decent American, it should inspire each of us to ask and demand the answers to such vital questions as,

WHY WE ARE FIGHTING IN VIETNAM?

HOW ARE WE FIGHTING IN VIETNAM?

WHO ARE WE FIGHTING IN VIETNAM?

Gen. William C. Westmoreland, speaking before the National Press Club in Washington, D.C. and presumably stating the official United States government position on the war, said that in Vietnam . . . "We are fighting a limited war with limited objectives and with limited means . . ." **LIMITED WAR . . . LIMITED OBJECTIVES . . . LIMITED MEANS . . .**

By **Limited War**, is he confirming that many key military targets in North Vietnam, such as certain airbases and the giant harbor in Haiphong are strictly "off-limits" to our attacking aircraft?

Thus allowing the continuation of the never ending flow of war materials into North Vietnam, sustaining their ability to wage their war of aggression against the people of South Vietnam . . . and inevitably increasing the number of Americans who die, killed by bullets, mortars and mines . . . sent to North Vietnam from other Communist countries.

By **limited objectives**, is Gen. Westmoreland saying that the defeat of the forces of international Communism, thereby freeing the more than one billion people they hold captive, is NOT the objective, the long range goal of those who control our nation policies?

That their policy is one of accommodation, containing THE SPREAD OF COMMUNISM. But as more and more people fall under its cruel yoke, we abandon them, and merely set new boundaries for our containment or accommodation of Communism?

By **limited means**, are we to assume that he is officially confirming the oft-repeated charge, that our fighting men are not being allowed to use the tremendous military potential with which the American taxpayers have equipped them?

That even though we possess overwhelming technical superiority in weaponry and equipment, we are fighting basically a manpower war in Vietnam; against an enemy whose most expendable item is men, an enemy who has no concern for human life.

It seems that only the number of Americans who are to die in Vietnam is unlimited, and that toll of victims to Communist aggression is increasing at a rate that is shocking.

With our commitment of men and material steadily on the rise and no end in sight, the rapidly spiraling number of American dead could reach gigantic proportions . . . eventually touching with sorrowful finality every American family.

South Vietnam is situated in the rich Southeast corner of Asia, with Cambodia and Laos on the West, and the China Sea on the East.

Its people show the facial characteristics of their basically Chinese-Indian culture, blended with 100 years of recent French presence. 16,000,000 people live in a land of 66,000 square miles, no larger than the state of Washington.

Moderately high mountain ranges and highlands extend southward from its northern border to the central area.

In the southern portion, there are vast areas of flat land covered with rice fields laid out in checker-board fashion, crossed by thin ribbons of roads and waterways and dotted with jungle.

The rainy, tropical climate turns huge portions of Vietnam into seas of sticky, clinging mud . . . where motorized equipment becomes hopelessly bogged down and even the foot soldier travels only with great difficulty.

Large areas are covered by jungles, where the oppressive humidity and swarming insects make human existence almost unbearable. Jungles are so thick in many places that only narrow winding paths penetrate their dark, forbidding depths.

Their principal use seems to be providing havens of concealment for the Communist Viet-Cong, who steal forth in the dead of night, pillaging, burning, murdering. Showing no distinction between men, women and children as they extract their heavy toll upon the innocent Vietnamese villagers.

South Vietnam was created in 1954, when Pierre Mendès-France, radical-Socialist Premier of France, accepted the Geneva Agreement, which brought "peace to Indo-China" by partitioning Vietnam into two portions at the 17th parallel and officially delivered the hapless people of North Vietnam into the hands of Ho Chi Minh, a Moscow-trained revolutionary.

Free and open elections to reunite the divided country were to be held in 1956 according to the Geneva agreement, whose co-Chairmen were Russia and England.²

No Communist dictator has ever dared to allow free elections and Ho Chi Minh is no exception. No elections were held in North Vietnam and his stepped up siege of terror against the people of South Vietnam, made it impossible for the elections scheduled for 1956, to be held in the South.

As the number of terrorists and criminal infiltrators coming into South Vietnam, wreaking death and destruction, continued to increase, our aid to South Vietnam was increased.

Military equipment and military advisors was the form taken by our initial aid to this strife-ridden land.

American armed forces were finally sent to fight, after the tempo of Communist activities increased from mere infiltration to the sending of invasion-sized forces of regular North Vietnamese Army units in 1964.³

The Southeast Asia Treaty Organization (SEATO), a mutual defense group for the repelling of aggression in Southeast Asia, was formed in 1954. The United States was one of its original members.

Our government, by joining in Regional Mutual Defense Pacts, has acknowledged that Communist Imperialism is a global threat against the peace and security of every free nation. Under the SEATO agreement, we have pledged to come to the aid of any Southeast Asian nation that request our aid in resisting aggression from without.

To bow to the Communist-inspired demands that we ignore this commitment would certainly have serious psychological effects on other free peoples who depend on our military might and our willingness to use that might, to back up their stand against Communist aggression.

The government headed by Ngo Dinh Diem originally requested our aid in South Vietnam. How he came to head the government, whether he was good or bad, incompetent or effective, corrupt or a knight of shining virtue are important questions . . . but they are not germane to the issue of how the war is being conducted NOW!

We HAVE gone to the aid of the people of South Vietnam in their efforts to resist being taken over by another expansion of the international Communist empire and through 1967 over 16,000 Americans have died in Vietnam. To give up and pull out now, via a political sell-out at the conference table, such as in Korea, would make their gallant sacrifices in defense of human freedom, a mockery.

The United States stands without question as the greatest industrial giant and most powerful military force in the history of man. But still we have been unable or unwilling to defeat the

Communist enemy from North Vietnam; a country smaller than Missouri, a population of only 17 million and practically no industrial capacity of its own. Why hasn't American military superiority defeated this military arm of the Moscow-Peking-Hanoi Axis? Let us look at how our men are being allowed to fight.

The American soldier in South Vietnam is the best trained, best equipped fighting man we have ever had. He's sharp and quick, and dedicated to doing his part to insure the preservation of our great nation.

They are not merely serial numbers and cold statistics, but young men with hopes and dreams for the future . . . a future that many of them will not live to see.

They are human beings . . . like the young GI pausing to pet the camp mutt. He is in full battle gear and waits for the order that might send him and his buddies into battle at any moment. He is someone's son . . . as are other young American soldiers, who go out on patrol and return from clashes with the Viet-Cong, or "Charlie" in GI lingo.

They come back dead tired but alive, after facing enemy bullets, grenades and mortars . . . not knowing that most of these instruments for their death are delivered by truck a few miles away, just days before.

At the Cambodian-South Vietnamese border, trucks arrive almost daily, heavily laden with weapons, ammunition and other supplies for the Viet-Cong.

These supplies are delivered into South Vietnam with complete immunity and although this is well known and the movements can often be clearly seen from the air, our forces are prohibited from attacking and destroying these war materials.

An authoritative article in the Dec. 11, 1967 issue of US News & World Report went into even greater detail concerning the Communist use of Cambodia as a training area and supply center.⁴

How many of our fighting men have died from bullets, grenades or mortar shells that could have been destroyed BEFORE they reached the enemy, no one will ever really know. But were it only a single man, the vote-conscious, unprincipled politicians responsible for such senseless restrictions should share equal blame for the death of that American with the Communist who pulls the trigger.

Officials in Washington are quick to point out that more than 1,000,000 tons of bombs have been dropped over North and South Vietnam by our Air Force, when the question of strategic bombing is raised.

Vast areas of Vietnam plainly show that a large portion of these tons of bombs are being dropped on small patches of jungle and in open fields. But what of the "off-limits" strategic targets that are privileged sanctuaries from this saturation bombing?

When our airmen are sent to face the trail of death, that is the anti-aircraft battery and missile-lined air corridors along which they must fly when over North Vietnam, they are forbidden to attack or bomb the airfields lined with the latest model Soviet-made MIG's . . . many of which they daily face in the air.

Also immune is Haiphong harbor where a continuous stream of ships unload their cargos . . . each load destined to increase the already heavy toll of Americans dead in Vietnam.

Even though North Vietnam is totally dependent on imports to maintain its war effort, its most vital supply artery, Haiphong Harbor, is permitted to remain a sanctuary, safe from destruction by our Air Force and our Navy forbidden to mine or blockade its vulnerable entrance, thus closing it to the steady flow of vital materials being received from other Communist-controlled countries.

The port at Sihanoukville on the coast of neutralist Cambodia, already a major Viet-Cong supply port, is rapidly being developed, preparing for the possibility that U.S. policy makers, bowing to the demands of an outraged American public, finally remove Haiphong harbor from the list of "off-limits" targets.

This look at the handicaps under which Americans are dying in Vietnam, could go on and on . . . of surplus and often defective World War II ammunition sent to our men in Vietnam . . . of aircraft designed to carry 24 bombs, but carrying only 2, be-

cause of a real or alledged shortage . . . of soldiers who stand guard over American lives and property in Saigon, with their weapons empty . . . and many others. But this grim story must move on to the question of WHO are we fighting in Vietnam?

Here in America, the protesters and appeasers, try to portray their Viet-Cong allies as noble, self-sacrificing people who struggle only to free their countrymen from American imperialism. But in reality, the Viet-Cong are no different from the gangs of Communist cut-throats who terrorized the peoples of so many other countries during the Communist takeover.

In South Vietnam, murder, reprisals and coercion quickly replaced persuasion as the chief political tactic. The atrocities are directed mainly at the villagers, designed to keep them terrorized . . . and thus immobilized and unorganized.

The lengthening shadows near the end of day, usher forth another night of fear, and few Americans can find it possible to comprehend the terror that stalks the land at night.

Even shocking headlines are inadequate, for numbers cannot portray the depth of the Communist cruelties in South Vietnam . . . their complete disregard for human life.

People in small isolated villages are completely defenseless after dark, and rare is the night that passes free of Communist terrorist attacks, that come suddenly and without warning.

Even Saigon itself is not secure. Government offices are surrounded by high barbed wire fences and armed guards.

Hotels bar their windows to offer some measure of protection to their guests, most of whom are Americans or other foreign visitors to Vietnam.

The fronts of small shops are clothed in steel as their owners seek to avoid the loss of everything they might have built up in a lifetime of hard work.

Heavy steel shutters on some homes, offer dependable protection for one's family . . . but the home thus becomes a prison itself . . . locking the family in as well as the terrorists out.

But still the Viet-Cong butchers take a terrible toll. In the first 10½ months of 1967, murdering 3,031 civilians, wounding 6,361 more and abducting 4,114 others . . .⁵ many of whom will never be found alive . . . or dead.

What kind of person is it that plants a land mine in a heavily traveled country road, hoping to destroy an American tank or other military vehicle, but knowing and not caring that the first arrivals to his cache of death might be a walking civilian, a slowly lumbering oxcart or even an ancient bus loaded with women and children.

To see children with the glow of life in their eyes and brimming over with the excitement of the very young after they have been blown apart by a Communist planted land mine or a bomb deliberately thrown by a Red terrorist, is a sight to bring tears to the eyes of anyone, however hardened they might be to the sight of death and human destruction. The perpetrators of such callous cruelties are the kind of beasts for whom the protesters march, claiming them as allies; sneering and gloating over the deaths of American soldiers who give up their lives in opposition to Communist aggression in South Vietnam.

The North Vietnamese Army Regulars and their Viet-Cong counterparts are well equipped. Many of their weapons are stolen or taken from the bodies of earlier victims, but most of their weaponry is supplied by other Communist regimes. Grenade launchers captured from the Viet-Cong were designed in Soviet Russia and manufactured in Red China. Carbine style rifles also taken off Viet-Cong terrorists, have markings clearly showing their origin . . . designed in Russia . . . made in China. Modern, rapid firing machine guns . . . designed in Communist Russia . . . made in Communist China.

Leonid Brezhnev, First Secretary of the Communist Party of the Soviet Union, boasted in words so simple that even our fuzziest-thinking intellectuals should be able to comprehend their full meaning: "We have been rendering great assistance to the Vietnamese comrades. We have already delivered to the Democratic Republic of (Communist North) Vietnam a considerable amount of weapons and military equipment." Brezhnev went on to add that Soviet aid would continue and be increased as needed.⁶

Other Communist dictators around the world, like the well trained puppets they are, echo in words and deeds this same support . . . and join with Russia in pouring forth a steady flow of war materials to their comrades in Vietnam.

The clearly visible evidence is overwhelming . . . The extending, grasping tentacle of subversion and military aggression that our fighting men face in South Vietnam, is simply a portion of the world-wide Communist apparatus that sits astride the world, holding over one billion people enslaved. A slave empire, whose military aggression is made possible by its capacity to produce the weapons of war. To deny this, requires the blindness of one who WILL NOT see . . . but our policy makers who recognize this truth, then refuse to react accordingly, must be guilty of something far worse.

Even as the soil in Vietnam becomes deeper stained with the blood of Americans killed by weapons supplied by Communist regimes, Lyndon Baines Johnson, President of the United States and Commander-in-Chief of our Armed Forces, leads the chorus of those who plead for an increase in trade with these same Communist regimes. They refer to the action as "building bridges."

This is just a few of the critical materials already cleared for shipment to these Communist dictatorships. **Steel tubing, copper cable, iron ore, diesel engines, electric motors, rocket engines, turbines, ball bearings, roller bearings, aircraft parts, precision machine tools, technical data and even ingredients for explosives.** The sale of hams from Poland with their Good Housekeeping Seal of Approval, and other imports from the Communist slave-labor empire, furnish badly needed American dollars with which the Reds buy critically needed items here, and in other western countries.

Many U.S. Government officials point glowingly to the 44% increase in trade during the first 6 months of 1966, with the Communist regimes of East Germany, Czechoslovakia, Romania, Bulgaria, Poland, Hungary, Yugoslavia and Soviet Russia.⁷ But they fail to mention that during the same period, these same Communist regimes furnished 80% of the war materials used to kill Americans fighting in Vietnam.

The Congressional Records of January 26, 1967 page H693 and March 10, 1967 pages S3543-S3547 give an even more comprehensive look at the list of critical items recently cleared by the Johnson administration for shipment to various Communist regimes.⁸ Your Congressman or Senator will send you a copy upon your request.

As incredible as it might seem, the Americans who die in Vietnam, are victims of the international Communist apparatus which is able to support its war of aggression in South Vietnam . . . due in great part if not principally, to the technical data, critical materials, vital machinery and credit, it obtains in the United States . . . with the Johnson administration's blessings.

WHY FIGHT THEM IN VIETNAM, BUT HELP THEM EVERYWHERE ELSE? is a question been asked by reasonable Americans. But the official answer to this penetrating question is only alibies, buck-passing and double-talk.

Senator Karl Mundt, of South Dakota, acknowledged to be one of the foremost authorities and most vigorous opponents of Communism, stood before the United States Senate on March 14, 1967, and declared: "If increasing the armament of those fighting against us is the shortcut to peace, every American President in history except Lyndon B. Johnson has been totally and completely in error, because he is the first to propose it".⁹

Congressman H. R. Gross condemned this insanity in these terms, "It is time that the citizens of this country were made to understand that they and their fighting men have been made the victims of a betrayal to international politics and intrigue".¹⁰ Words like betrayal or treason are harsh and should not be taken lightly.

The drafters of our Constitution set forth this clear definition of treason against the people of the United States as . . . " . . . adhering to their enemies, giving them aid and comfort".¹¹ Should it apply only to those who fight on the battlefield . . . and not to those whose programs and policies aid that same

enemy. From the grave, the sacrifices of the thousands of Americans already dead in a war they were forbidden to win . . . demand an answer to the question . . . WHY FIGHT THEM IN VIETNAM, BUT HELP THEM EVERYWHERE ELSE?

Our great nation can meet and defeat the world-wide Communist apparatus that threatens to extend its bloody tyranny over all mankind. Our nation can survive the turmoil created by the marching mobs of agitators and appeasers who seem to willingly follow the dedicated Communist enemies who organize the Anti-American protests.

But no nation of free men can long survive when large numbers of its citizens become apathetic and indifferent to the preservation of their freedom. When many are unwilling to take a stand with those who speak up for freedom . . . if it means becoming controversial or the object of smear terms and lies . . . When many are so selfish and comfortable in their material blessings that even the blood of their nation's youth concerns them not. Such people do not deserve freedom . . . nor will they long enjoy its abundant blessings.

It is time for every American to become involved; to send a flood of letters, petitions, telegrams and telephone calls to every politician, every newspaper and every person of influence in the United States. They should demand an immediate end to the treasonous trade policies which aid the international Communist menace and that the Americans who fight against the Communist enemy in Vietnam, be unshackled and allowed to do their job with a clearly stated, honorable goal the objective.

In the words of Gen. Douglas MacArthur, a great American patriot and the finest military leader in our nation's history . . . THERE IS NO SUBSTITUTE FOR VICTORY! Let's win the war in Vietnam . . . and then bring our men back to their homes and their loved ones.

FOOTNOTES

1. General William C. Westmoreland, November 21, 1967. Speech before the National Press Club, Washington, D.C.
2. Geneva Agreement, July, 1954.
3. Admiral U.S.G. Sharp, Commander-in-Chief, Pacific Naval Forces, Reader's Digest, January 1968 issue, page 103.
4. U.S. News and World Report, December 11, 1967 issue, page 62.
5. Civilian Casualties From VC Terrorism (weekly report for newsmen in Saigon, Vietnam) November 16, 1967 report, for January 1, 1967 through November 11, 1967.
6. Leonid Brezhnev statement September 29, 1965 at Plenary Meeting of the Communist Party of the USSR.
7. AP news release, Washington, DC, November 25, 1966, reported in New York Times November 26, 1966.
8. Congressional Record — House, January 26, 1967, page H693.
Congressional Record — Senate, March 10, 1967, pages S3543-S3547.
9. Statement by Senator Karl Mundt, Congressional Record — Senate, March 14, 1967, page S3758.
10. Statement by Congressman H. R. Gross, quoted in WHILE BRAVE MEN DIE, feature article in American Opinion Magazine, June 1967 issue, p.15.
11. Constitution of the United States, Article III, Section 3.

ABOUT DONALD MACKEY

Even before becoming General Manager of Publius & Associates, Donald Mackey's varied business background included success as an insurance counselor, advertising consultant and salesman, and regional manager of the largest pro-American lecture agency in America.

While preparing VIETNAM: DILEMMA FOR AMERICANS, he made a personal trip to Vietnam. During this 20,000-mile fact-finding tour, he traveled by highflying jets, lowflying helicopters, taxis, jeeps, trucks, rick-shaws, ox-carts . . . and even that most primitive means of travel . . . walking.

He has been called: a patriot . . . an extremist, a well-read conservative . . . a know-nothing reactionary, honorable . . . shadowy, straight-shooter . . . word-twister, but most agree that he is one of the growing number of Americans who are not content to see the loss of our heritage of Freedom.

Donald Mackey was born in Texas in 1932, and now lives in the Los Angeles area with his wife and four children.

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